

This bill is very similar to legislation passed by my predecessor, Representative Bob Schaffer, in 2000, which transferred four single-purpose water conveyance facilities of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project located downstream of the Horsetooth Reservoir. This legislation would complete the transfer of all the single-purpose water conveyance facilities within the project. This transfer would allow the District to more cost-effectively manage the facility and reduce the burdensome bureaucracy of the Federal Government. The District has met its financial obligation of repayment of capital costs, and the title transfer is now appropriate. I believe that this transfer is in the best interest of the constituents of my district.

I would like to thank Chairman POMBO and his staff for moving this bill so quickly through the Resources Committee, with special thanks to Kiel Weaver for his assistance on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of this bill.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3443, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AUTHORIZING SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY STUDY OF DESIGNATING THE ST. LOUIS SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL MILITARY MUSEUM AS A UNIT OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 452) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 452

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STUDY REGARDING THE SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL MILITARY MUSEUM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) The Soldiers' Memorial is a tribute to all veterans located in the greater St. Louis area, including Southern Illinois.

(2) The current annual budget for the memorial is \$185,000 and is paid for exclusively by the City of St. Louis.

(3) In 1923, the City of St. Louis voted to spend \$6,000,000 to purchase a memorial plaza and building dedicated to citizens of St. Louis who lost their lives in World War I.

(4) The purchase of the 7 block site exhausted the funds and no money remained to construct a monument.

(5) In 1933, Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann appealed to citizens and the city government to raise \$1,000,000 to construct a memorial building and general improvement of the plaza area and the construction of Soldiers' Memorial began on October 21, 1935.

(6) On October 14, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially dedicated the site.

(7) On Memorial Day in 1938, Mayor Dickmann opened the building to the public.

(b) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall carry out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum, located at 1315 Chestnut, St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System.

(c) STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.—Section 8(c) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c)) shall apply to the conduct and completion of the study required by this section.

(d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report describing the results the study required by this section to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 452 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating a military memorial in St. Louis as a unit of the National Park System.

In 1923, the City of St. Louis voted to spend \$6 million to purchase a memorial plaza and building dedicated to citizens of St. Louis who lost their lives in World War I. The purchase of the memorial site exhausted the funds. In 1933, the city government raised another \$1 million to construct a memorial building on the site. On October 14, 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially dedicated the site, and the building was open to the public on Memorial Day, 1938.

Currently, the memorial is administered by the City of St. Louis with a budget of \$192,000. Local officials have expressed that the memorial faces an uncertain future without Federal assistance and would like a Federal agency to administer the site. Again, this bill only proposes a study of this memorial and the possibility of its becoming a unit of the National Park System.

I urge adoption of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the majority has already explained the purpose of H.R. 452, which was introduced by my friend and colleague from Missouri (Mr. CLAY). The gentleman from Missouri is to be commended for his efforts to preserve this memorial and museum, which was built to honor those who lost their lives in service to our country.

It is our expectation that the study authorized by H.R. 452 will help determine the most appropriate means to preserve and maintain the Soldiers' Memorial and thus help to continue to honor the sacrifice of those who have fought and died for our country.

Mr. Speaker, we support H.R. 452 and urge its adoption by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time.

I want to take a moment to thank the Chairman POMBO and Chairman SAXTON and Ranking Members RAHALL and CHRISTENSEN for their willingness to support and their generous help of their staffers who have worked hard to bring the St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum bill to the floor today.

H.R. 452, which I sponsored along with Representatives SKELTON and CARNAHAN, will authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the feasibility of including the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum in St. Louis among the National Park Service's inventory of Federal monuments.

At a time when our soldiers are fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, the American people feel a very special connection to our military forces, and the citizens of our Nation have a very real need to visit shrines that honor our Nation's veterans.

The St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum is a treasured monument to our Nation's veterans. I believe this landmark is truly one of the most outstanding memorials ever built in tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives in service to our Nation.

The St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial was initiated by residents of St. Louis in the 1920s to honor the brave Americans who lost their lives in World War I. After several years of fundraising for land acquisition and construction, the monument was dedicated by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on October 14, 1936, and officially opened to the public on Memorial Day, 1938.

The Soldiers' Memorial was a unique place in our Nation's history as it is the only structure in St. Louis that is

known to have been dedicated by a sitting U.S. President. The Soldiers' Monument is a national treasure and an architectural masterpiece. Designed by one of the 20th Century's foremost art deco sculptors, Mr. Walker Hancock, its entrance is flanked by four limestone sculptures which symbolize the most important virtues in a soldier's life: courage, loyalty, sacrifice and vision, while its ceiling displays a mosaic tile in the shape of a large gold star that is dedicated to our Nation's Gold Star Mothers.

The Soldiers' Memorial is an important cultural resource and gathering place. It attracts nearly 48,000 visitors each year and provides the setting for more than 20 ceremonies annually, including changing of command and retirement ceremonies and many patriotic events hosted by veterans groups. It is the center of an annual Veterans Day Parade and Observance, which is the largest of its kind in the Midwest, drawing participants from several surrounding States and presenting more than 100 marching units.

In recent years, the memorial has received support and contributions from active military personnel and veterans to help the city of St. Louis maintain this cherished structure.

At this time in our history, we are engaged in a war against terrorism. The people of our Nation are mourning more than 2,000 American service men and women who have given their lives in the Iraq War. The American people are anxious to pay tribute to the Nation's veterans, and they should have national shrines to commemorate their friends and family members who have lost their lives for our Nation.

It is time for the Federal Government to consider acquiring the St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum in its inventory of national monuments. I believe that a study of this monument would show that it is an historically important structure with a national significance.

H.R. 452 is strongly supported by veterans groups and other civic organizations. I hope the Members of this body will endorse this important effort to help create a Federal monument to honor our Nation's veterans. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to share my support for H.R. 452, a bill introduced by my good friend and Missouri colleague, Congressman LACY CLAY. I was pleased to cosponsor this legislation, which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of including the St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum as a part of the National Park System.

Through the years, the people of St. Louis and the surrounding area have visited the St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial to pay tribute to the selfless sacrifices of our men and women in uniform. Originally constructed to honor Americans who lost their lives during the first World War, the monument was dedicated by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1936 and opened to the public in 1938. Since that time, the memorial has held a unique place in the history of our state and our country.

As such, it seems fitting that Congress authorize the Interior Secretary to determine whether the St. Louis Soldiers' Memorial should be included in America's inventory of national monuments. I hope my colleagues agree and will support this sensible legislation offered by the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. CLAY.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. DRAKE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 452.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1530

#### PRESIDENTIAL \$1 COIN ACT OF 2005

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1047) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of each of the Nation's past Presidents and their spouses, respectively, to improve circulation of the \$1 coin, to create a new bullion coin, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1047

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005".

#### TITLE I—PRESIDENTIAL \$1 COINS

##### SEC. 101. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) There are sectors of the United States economy, including public transportation, parking meters, vending machines, and low-dollar value transactions, in which the use of a \$1 coin is both useful and desirable for keeping costs and prices down.

(2) For a variety of reasons, the new \$1 coin introduced in 2000 has not been widely sought-after by the public, leading to higher costs for merchants and thus higher prices for consumers.

(3) The success of the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program (31 U.S.C. 5112(l)) for circulating quarter dollars shows that a design on a United States circulating coin that is regularly changed in a manner similar to the systematic change in designs in such Program radically increases demand for the coin, rapidly pulling it through the economy.

(4) The 50 States Commemorative Coin Program also has been an educational tool, teaching both Americans and visitors something about each State for which a quarter has been issued.

(5) A national survey and study by the Government Accountability Office has indicated that many Americans who do not seek, or who reject, the new \$1 coin for use in commerce would actively seek the coin if an attractive, educational rotating design were to be struck on the coin.

(6) The President is the leader of our tripartite government and the President's

spouse has often set the social tone for the White House while spearheading and highlighting important issues for the country.

(7) Sacagawea, as currently represented on the new \$1 coin, is an important symbol of American history.

(8) Many people cannot name all of the Presidents, and fewer can name the spouses, nor can many people accurately place each President in the proper time period of American history.

(9) First Spouses have not generally been recognized on American coinage.

(10) In order to revitalize the design of United States coinage and return circulating coinage to its position as not only a necessary means of exchange in commerce, but also as an object of aesthetic beauty in its own right, it is appropriate to move many of the mottos and emblems, the inscription of the year, and the so-called "mint marks" that currently appear on the 2 faces of each circulating coin to the edge of the coin, which would allow larger and more dramatic artwork on the coins reminiscent of the so-called "Golden Age of Coinage" in the United States, at the beginning of the Twentieth Century, initiated by President Theodore Roosevelt, with the assistance of noted sculptors and medallic artists James Earle Fraser and Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

(11) Placing inscriptions on the edge of coins, known as edge-incusing, is a hallmark of modern coinage and is common in large-volume production of coinage elsewhere in the world, such as the 2,700,000,000 2-Euro coins in circulation, but it has not been done on a large scale in United States coinage in recent years.

(12) Although the Congress has authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to issue gold coins with a purity of 99.99 percent, the Secretary has not done so.

(13) Bullion coins are a valuable tool for the investor and, in some cases, an important aspect of coin collecting.

#### SEC. 102. PRESIDENTIAL \$1 COIN PROGRAM.

Section 5112 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(n) REDESIGN AND ISSUANCE OF CIRCULATING \$1 COINS HONORING EACH OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.—

"(1) REDESIGN BEGINNING IN 2007.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (d) and in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, \$1 coins issued during the period beginning January 1, 2007, and ending upon the termination of the program under paragraph (8), shall—

"(i) have designs on the obverse selected in accordance with paragraph (2)(B) which are emblematic of the Presidents of the United States; and

"(ii) have a design on the reverse selected in accordance with paragraph (2)(A).

"(B) CONTINUITY PROVISION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall continue to mint and issue \$1 coins which bear any design in effect before the issuance of coins as required under this subsection (including the so-called 'Sacagawea design' \$1 coins).

"(2) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The \$1 coins issued in accordance with paragraph (1)(A) shall meet the following design requirements:

"(A) COIN REVERSE.—The design on the reverse shall bear—

"(i) a likeness of the Statue of Liberty extending to the rim of the coin and large enough to provide a dramatic representation of Liberty while not being large enough to create the impression of a '2-headed' coin;

"(ii) the inscription '\$1'; and

"(iii) the inscription 'United States of America'.